

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVII

Number 11

16 / 29 November 2015

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 1*)

Holy Apostle Matthew the Evangelist

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 1*)

Holy Apostle & Evangelist Matthew

Saturday, 28 November (15 November o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Sunday, 29 November (16 November, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;

Trapeza (coffee hour)

12:30 PM Inquirers & Adult Study

ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Thursday, 3 December (20 November o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Friday, 4 December (21 November, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

27TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (*Tone 2*)

Afterfeast of the Entry; St Alexander Nevsky

Saturday, 5 December (22 November o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Sunday, 6 December (23 November, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;

Trapeza (coffee hour)

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

Su	26th Sunday after Pentecost	
	4th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §112 (24:1-12)	
	Eph. §229 (5:8b-19)	Luke §53 (10:25-37)
27TH WEEK after PENTECOST		
M	1 Tim. §285a (5:1-10)	Luke §75 (14:12-15)
Tu	1 Tim. §286 (5:11-21)	Luke §77 (14:25-35)
W	1 Tim. §287 (5:22-6:11a)	Luke §78 (15:1-10)
Th	1 Tim. §289 (6:17-21)	Luke §80 (16:1-9)
F	ENTRY OF THE ALL-HOLY THEOTOKOS	
	Vespers Paramia: (1) Exodus 40:1-5, 9-10, 16, 34-35 • (2) I Kings 7:51; 8:1, 3-7, 9-11 • (3) Ezekiel 43:27-44:4a	
	Matins Gospel: Luke §4 (1:39-49, 56)	
	Heb. §320 (9:1-7)	Luke §54 (10:38-42; 11:27-28)
F	2 Tim. §290 (1:1-2, 8-18)	Luke §82 (16:15-18; 17:1-4)
Sa	Gal. §213 (5:22-6:2)	Luke §49 (9:57-62)
Su	27th Sunday after Pentecost	
	5th Resurrectional Matins Gospel: Luke §113 (24:12-35)	
	Eph. §233 (6:10-17)	Luke §66 (12:16-21)

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
Sunday	29 November (16 Nov, o.s.)	Apostle & Evangelist Matthew Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
Monday	30 November (17 Nov, o.s.)	St Gregory of Neo-Caesarea Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
Tuesday	1 December (18 Nov, o.s.)	M Platon; M Romanus the Deacon Fast: wine & oil permitted
Wednesday	2 December (19 Nov, o.s.)	Prophet Obadiah; Martyr Barlaam Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
Thursday	3 December (20 Nov, o.s.)	St Gregory the Decapolite Fast: wine & oil permitted
Friday	4 December (21 Nov, o.s.)	ENTRY OF THE THEOTOKOS Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
Saturday	5 December (22 Nov, o.s.)	Apostle Philemon & Company Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
Sunday	6 December (23 Nov, o.s.)	St Amphilochius & St Gregory Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

Namedays – 27th (Apostle Philip): Sbdcn Philip Hotz, Philip Schidlovsky; 27th (St Gregory Palamas): Reader Gregory Maxey.

Birthdays – 24th: Philip Schidlovsky.

THIS WEEK

Birthdays – Nov. 29th: Marina Kamensky (Golikova); 30th: John Morrow; Dec.1st: Jack (John) Welsh; 3rd: Sofia Fitzgerald.

THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Namedays – 7th (Great-Martyr Katherine): Katharine Bibas, Katya Darenkov; 13th (Apostle Andrew): Andrew O'Brien, Andrew Kostadis, Reader Andrew Welsh; 19th (St Nicholas): Nikolai Darenkov, Reader Nicolas Schidlovsky, Nicolas Straut; 22nd (Conception of St Anna): Anna Straut; 22nd (Righteous Hannah): Mat. Nancy Hannah Barker; 24th-30th (Holy Forefathers): Sarah Brangwynne; 30th (Prophet Daniel): Reader Daniel Lieuwen, Daniel Palko, Daniel Yanovsky.

Birthdays – 6th: (Mrs.) Nina Fitzgerald; 15th: Xenia Whitacre; 22nd: Anna Straut; 29th: Elizabeth Lieuwen,

Paul Schidlovsky; 30th: Sbdcn Philip Hotz, Tatiana Yanovsky.

Baptism Anniversaries – 19th: Father David Straut (1982).

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 18th: Archimandrite Joasaph (McLellan) (+2009); 20th: Serge Kropov (+2009); 22nd: Thomas Hancorn (+2013)

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are in the midst of the Nativity Fast, which began on 28 November (n.s.) and continues for forty days until the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord on 7 January (n.s.). We eat no animal products (meat, meat products, eggs, and dairy products) throughout the forty days. The general rules for this period are as follows: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are normal fast days; on Tuesdays and Thursdays, wine and oil are permitted; and on Saturdays and Sundays we may eat fish, wine, and oil. But since greater Saints' Days frequently brings a further mitigation of the fast from the general rules, it is important to consult an annual Orthodox calendar to find the correct fasting regimen for a particular weekday.

This is the final Sunday for the special collection for the Fund for Assistance to the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. If you have already donated may the Lord bless you. If you have not, please consider giving today.

Today is the last Sunday for our formal collection of items for the Christmas Care Program of the Somerset Jail Chaplaincy. We have been collecting toys to be given to the children of Inmates and personal care items to be given to the Inmates themselves at Christmas time. If you wish to participate in the Christmas Care Program, but have not yet donated items, Fr David can accept toys until the second Sunday of December and personal care items until the third Sunday. May the Lord bless you for remembering the least of His brethren!

Holy Trinity Seminary Matching Challenge: For the first time, Holy Trinity Seminary is participating in #GivingTuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back. Thanks to a generous donor, every dollar you give to Holy Trinity Seminary starting today until December 1 will be doubled! All donations will be matched up to \$50,000. Donate today and help the Seminary raise \$100,000 by 1 December 2015. Invest in the Church's future today and double your impact! For an informative video explaining the Challenge and an online form to donate, please visit the Holy Trinity Seminary website page: http://hts.edu/news_151119_1.html

Today at coffee hour we will begin a series of Adult Studies for both inquirers and other interested persons in the basic elements, beliefs, and practices of the Orthodox Christian Faith. Father David will lead these sessions, with questions and sharing encouraged for all participants. The basic text we will be using for these Adult Studies is *The Law of God* by Priest Daniel Sysoev, with his *Catechetical Talks* as a supplement. These Adult Studies should meet two Sundays a month at about 12:30 p.m., after we've had something to eat at Trapeza.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (21 November / 4 December) is one of the Twelve Great Feasts. On it we remember the presentation of the Mother of God in the Temple in Jerusalem when she was three years old by her holy parents, the Righteous Joachim and Anna, where she remained serving the Lord until she was twelve years of age. All the faithful should be in church to honor the All-Pure One on this holy day.

The Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos is celebrated for five days, from the Feast day itself through the *Apodosis* (Leave-taking) of the Feast on 8 December (n.s). The festal period of this Feast is shorter than the usual eight days, because the Feast falls within the Nativity Fast. The troparion and kontakion of the Entry are chanted or read at all the services of the Church on each of the five days. To celebrate the Feast at home, the troparion of the Feast ('Today is the prelude of God's good will...') can be sung instead of the 'Our Father' before meals, while the kontakion of the Feast ('The most pure temple of the Saviour ...') can be sung instead of the usual thanksgiving troparion after each meal. It would also be most appropriate to sing the troparion and kontakion of the Feast at the end of our morning and evening prayers at home.

Father will provide written excuses to students who are absent or late for school due to attendance at services for any of the Great Feasts of the Church. Please notify him in advance so that he can have it ready for your child.

The annual St Herman of Alaska Youth Conference will take place in Albany, New York, at *Nativity of the Mother of God Church*, from Tuesday, 22 December through Saturday, 26 December 2015. The featured speakers will our own parishioner *Nadezhda Sexton*, and *Archpriest John Whiteford*. The program includes spiritual lectures and discussion groups, church services, the chance to meet other Orthodox youth, and social outings. Youth from age 16 through young adult are invited. The cost for the conference will be \$300 and includes lodging, meals, and local transportation. For further information and registration, please visit the website at www.StHermanConference.com